

TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE



**FISCAL NOTE**

**HB 2531 - SB 2694**

March 5, 2022

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Changes certain requirements for professional counselors seeking licensure. Allows for a temporary license to be valid for up to four years and to be eligible for extension at the discretion of the Board of Professional Counselors, Marital and Family Therapists and Clinical Pastoral Therapists (Board).

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Revenue - \$33,400/FY22-23 and Subsequent Years/  
Board of Professional Counselors, Marital and Family  
Therapists and Clinical Pastoral Therapists**

**Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-29-121, all health-related boards are required to be self-supporting over a two-year period. The Board of Professional Counselors, Marital and Family Therapists and Clinical Pastoral Therapists had a surplus of \$37,111 in FY19-20, a surplus of \$103,679 in FY20-21, and a cumulative reserve balance of \$978,293 on June 30, 2021.**

**Assumptions:**

- There is an average of 1,592 professional counselor licensures issued each year in Tennessee. Assuming the removal of certain requirements would lead to an increase of 10 percent in the number of professional counselors each year, this would result in an increase of 159 professional counselors each year.
- The application cost for a professional counselor licensure is \$210. Therefore, the proposed legislation would lead to a recurring increase in revenue to the Board of \$33,390 (159 x \$210).
- Pursuant to Tennessee Code Annotated § 62-22-121(b)(4), a temporary license may not be renewed and is only valid for three years. Therefore, allowing an applicant to continue to hold a temporary license after they have been denied a permanent license will not create any increased revenue from those denied applicants reapplying for a temporary license.
- Pursuant to Tenn. Code Ann. § 4-29-121, all health-related boards are required to be self-supporting over a two-year period. The Board of Professional Counselors, Marital and Family Therapists and Clinical Pastoral Therapists had a surplus of \$37,111 in FY19-20, a surplus of \$103,679 in FY20-21, and a cumulative reserve balance of \$978,293 on June 30, 2021.

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**CERTIFICATION:**

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Krista Lee Carsner". The script is cursive and fluid.

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/cd